



### NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION MEETING

**Meeting.** The Natural Resource Commission met on May 12 in Des Moines. The following was discussed at the meeting:

- Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief, provided information on the challenges of operating the [State Forest Nursery](#) that is located in Ames. The Nursery produces bareroot seedlings that are purchased by landowners in large quantities and planted to prevent soil erosion, protect water quality, and improve habitat. During the 1990s, the Nursery sold between three and five million seedlings each year and the expenditures for operating the Nursery were covered by the revenue generated from sales of nursery stock. Currently, the annual demand for seedlings is around one million, and the decrease in sales has made it difficult to pay for expenditures. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is submitting an Administrative Rule change to increase the price of nursery stock to cover some of the revenue shortfall. The Department will also make changes to operations to reduce expenditures. The Commission approved the proposed rule.
- Mark Sedlmayr, Law Enforcement, asked to amend and extend a contract with Kalkomey Enterprises, which provides online event registration for DNR educational events. This includes the Hunter Education Program that provides 300 classes to approximately 10,000 students each year. The contract was extended.
- Travis Baker, Land and Water Bureau Chief, asked for approval to purchase 10 acres in Harrison County that is adjacent to the Pisgah Unit of the Loess Hills State Forest Nursery. The purchase of the land will provide public access for hunting and other recreational activities. The purchase price was \$18,500 and funding was from the Open Spaces Account in the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Fund. The purchase was approved.

**June Tour.** The June 9 meeting will be held in Webster County, although the exact location has not been determined. A tour of projects in Webster County will be held on June 8.

**Additional Information.** For additional information, refer to the Committee [website](#).

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